



## OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

August 9, 2013

The Honorable Harry Reid  
Senate Majority Leader  
United States Senate  
522 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Mitch McConnell  
Senate Minority Leader  
United States Senate  
317 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable John Boehner  
Speaker of the House  
U.S. House of Representatives  
1011 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi  
Minority Leader  
U.S. House of Representatives  
235 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Majority Leader Reid, Minority Leader McConnell, Speaker Boehner and Minority Leader Pelosi:

The State Trade and Export Promotion (STEP) grant program (Section 1207 of the 2010 Small Business Jobs Act) is currently under consideration in the Senate. The program was initially authorized for three years, Fiscal Year 2011-2014, and appropriated for two years, Fiscal Year 2011-2013. I strongly support full appropriation for the third year, Fiscal Year 2014, and reauthorization of the program beyond 2014. Since 2011, the STEP program has provided \$30 million annually to state trade offices to directly assist small and medium sized enterprises to enter and expand into new export markets.

California has directly benefitted from this program, receiving over \$4 million in funding. This program also helped expose over 2,000 California small businesses to international trade opportunities, 244 of which participated in overseas exhibitions and generated more than \$30,000,000 in exports for California.

The Honorable Harry Reid, et. al.

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Thank you for your consideration of this important program.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Edmund G. Brown Jr.", with a large, stylized flourish at the end.

Edmund G. Brown Jr.

cc: Members of the California Congressional Delegation

The Honorable Barbara Mikulski

The Honorable Richard Shelby

The Honorable Mary Landrieu

The Honorable Jim Risch

The Honorable Hal Rogers

The Honorable Nita Lowey

The Honorable Sam Graves

The Honorable Nydia Velasquez